

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Errol Drew et al.  
Title: AN INTERLOCKING  
SEPARABLE JOINT  
Appl. No.: 10/591729  
International Filing Date: September 1, 2006  
371(c) Date:  
Examiner: Unknown  
Art Unit: 3635  
Confirmation Number: 3110

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR

§1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

#### **TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

#### **RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached. An English-language abstract of the foreign-language document has been provided.

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 50-3431.

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 2, 2007

By David J. Rikkers

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
111 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02199  
Telephone: (617) 342-4034  
Facsimile: (617) 342-4001

David J. Rikkers  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 43,882

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Date Submitted: January 19, 2007

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/591729
Filing Date	September 1, 2006
First Named Inventor	Errol Draw
Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	077354-0111

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	A1	US 2001/0010779	08-02-2001	Pfister	
	A2	US 2001/0045404	11-29-2001	Pellegrino	
	A3	US 2002/0131818	09-19-2002	Wang et al.	
	A4	US 2003/0129026	07-10-2003	Park et al.	
	A5	594,043	11-23-1897	Thompson et al.	
	A6	617,536	01-10-1899	W.L. Martin	
	A7	1,887,913	11-15-1932	H.D. Bell	
	A8	3,966,337	06-29-1976	Crawford	
	A9	4,142,342	03-06-1979	Jungers et al.	
	A10	4,157,226	06-05-1979	Reiter	
	A11	4,322,176	03-30-1982	Johnson, Jr.	
	A12	4,408,926	10-11-1983	Verner	
	A13	4,496,262	01-29-1985	Sangster	
	A14	4,582,446	04-15-1986	Salice	
	A15	4,702,636	10-27-1987	Guile	
	A16	4,867,598	09-19-1989	Winter, IV	
	A17	4,890,953	01-02-1990	Malatesta	
	A18	5,253,948	10-19-1993	Butler	
	A19	5,267,425	12-07-1993	Onysko et al.	
	A20	5,269,550	12-14-1993	Hon et al.	
	A21	5,323,584	06-28-1994	Scarlett	
	A22	5,412,913	05-09-1995	Daniels et al.	
	A23	5,588,788	12-31-1996	Hedley	
	A24	5,590,570	01-07-1997	Lemaire	
	A25	5,762,410	06-09-1998	Lutz	
	A26	6,003,898	12-21-1999	Teplý et al.	
	A27	6,234,910	05-22-2001	Norberg	
	A28	6,457,920	10-01-2002	Kleiner	
	A29	6,779,944	08-24-2004	Schnorrer	
	A30	6,796,739	09-28-2004	Shoykhet	
	A31	6,814,523	11-09-2004	Nilsson	

**UNPUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Application Document	Filing Date of Cited Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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	MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> Number <sup>3</sup> Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	A32	JP 2002067671	08-19-2003	Excel:KK		Y

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	A33	International Search Report; PCT/US05/06771; Date of Mailing of the International Search Report: October 12, 2005; Authorized Officer: Michael P. Ferguson	

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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